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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/696,039	10/30/2003	Seiichi Hirai	500.43244X00	6037

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MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.  
1800 DIAGONAL ROAD  
SUITE 370  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER
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MADDEN, GREGORY VINCENT

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/15/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/696,039

Applicant(s)

HIRAI ET AL.

Examiner

Gregory V. Madden

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Priority*

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**Claims 1-3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fiore et al.**

**(U.S. Pub. 2002/0191952).**

First, regarding **claim 1**, the Fiore reference teaches a method of storing image data, the method comprising the steps of obtaining image data from an image pick-up device (monitoring device 6), recording the image data in a first recording apparatus (circular storage buffer 15), retrieving the image data recorded in the first recording apparatus (15) in accordance with a predetermined retrieval condition (e.g. an event signal detected from external event source 8), and displaying (on playback control screen 70) the retrieved image data as a list of information (in event information window 72) relating to the retrieved image data. Further, Fiore teaches that predetermined information from the list of information is selected (by client 30 or 30'), the selected image data is read from the first recording apparatus (15), and the read out image data relating to the selected information is recorded in a second recording apparatus

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(storage at client 30 or 30'). Please refer to Figs. 1-4, 6, 7, 10, and 11, and Paras. [0039-0042], [0047-0053], [0056-0060], and [0065-0072].

Considering **claim 2**, the limitations of claim 1 are taught above, and Fiore also teaches that the image data contains information from a sensor (external event source 8) and the list of information (shown in Fig. 7 as event information window 82) contains information from the sensor (i.e. event information). See Paras. [0041] and [0057—0060].

As for **claim 3**, again the limitations of claim 1 are taught above, and Fiore further discloses that the image data is further added with time information (time stamps) that the image data is obtained and the list of information (72 and 82 in Figs. 6-7) contains the time information. Please refer to Paras. [0056-0057].

Finally, regarding **claim 6**, the limitations of claim 1 are set forth above, and Fiore teaches that the step of recording the selected image data relating to the selected information in the second recording apparatus further includes a step of recording reproduction software for reproducing the recorded image data together with the recorded image data, as is taught in Para. [0051].

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al. (U.S. Pub. 2002/0191952).**

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Next, considering **claim 7**, the limitations of claim 1 are taught above by the Fiore reference, but Fiore fails to specifically disclose that the second recording apparatus comprises a removable recording medium. However, Official Notice is hereby taken that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, as the second recording apparatus, a removable recording medium. One would have been motivated to do so because the second recording apparatus of Fiore is located within clients 30 and/or 30', wherein the user of client 30 and /or 30' chooses the event-specific image data that they wish to view (See Paras. [0065-0072]). By implementing the recording medium of client 30 and/or 30' as a removable recording medium, the user could easily transfer and view the selected image data on any compatible device, thereby allowing the user to save and distribute desired image data as they wish without expending internal memory.

**Claims 4, 5, and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al. (U.S. Pub. 2002/0191952) in view of Berezowski et al. (U.S. Pub. 2002/0016971).**

Next, considering **claim 4**, the limitations of claim 3 are taught above by Fiore, but the Fiore reference only teaches that the image pick-up unit (monitoring device 6) comprises a single image pickup-up device, as is taught in Para. [0040]. Fiore also does not teach that image data obtained from each of the image pick-up devices is added with ID for identifying each of the image pick-up devices, the list of information further containing the ID. However, noting Para. [0053], the Berzowski reference teaches a storing method of image data wherein a plurality of image pick-up devices (multiple video cameras 152) are used to capture image data, while Paras. [0133-0138] and Figs. 23a-23b show that the image data obtained from each of the image pick-up devices is added with ID (Camera 1, Camera 2, etc.) for identifying each of the image pick-up devices, wherein a list of information (shown in Fig. 23b) further contains the ID (e.g. Camera 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included the plurality of image pick-up devices having ID

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identifying each image pick-up device, as taught by Berezowski, with the storing method of image data of Fiore. One would have been motivated to do so because by having multiple image pick-up devices, the remote user can view many different views and angles of a given scene, giving the user many more desirable options of image data to record. Also, by adding ID for each of the image pick-up devices, the user can confirm which image pick-up device they wish to record image data from before actually recording and viewing the image data, thereby saving time and space in the second recording unit.

As for **claim 5**, the limitations of claim 4 are taught above by Fiore in view of Berezowski, and the Fiore reference further teaches that the step of displaying the retrieved image data as the list further includes a step of designating in-point and out-point (via pointer 74 and slider bar 73) for selecting desired image data, as is taught in Para. [0058].

Next, considering **claim 8**, the Fiore reference teaches a system for storing image data, wherein the system comprises an image pick-up unit (monitoring device 6) for outputting image data, a transmission unit (signal processor 10) for transmitting the image data from the image pick-up unit (6) to a transmission path (network 4), a first recording apparatus (circular storage buffer 15) coupled with the transmission path for recording the image data from the image pick-up unit, a retrieving processing unit (server 20) for retrieving the image data recorded in the first recording apparatus (15) in accordance with a predetermined retrieval condition (i.e. an event signal from external event source 8), and a display unit (playback control screen 70 of client 30) for displaying the retrieved image data as a list of information (in event information window 72) relating to the retrieved image data. Further, Fiore teaches a selector (user controls of client 30 and/or 30') for selecting predetermined information (i.e. event information) from the list of information and reading out the selected image data selecting to the selected information in the list from the first recording apparatus (15), and a second recording apparatus (in client 30 and/or 30') for recording the selected image data. Please refer to Figs. 1-4, 6, 7, 10, and 11, and Paras. [0039-0042], [0047-0053], [0056-0060], and [0065-0072]. What Fiore fails to teach, though is that the system

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comprises a plurality of image pick-up units for outputting image data. However, noting Para. [0053], the Berzowski reference teaches a storing system of image data wherein a plurality of image pick-up devices (multiple video cameras 152) are used to capture image data (See also Paras. [0133-0138] and Figs. 23a-23b). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included the plurality of image pick-up devices, as taught by Berzowski, with the storing system of image data of Fiore. One would have been motivated to do so because by having multiple image pick-up devices, the remote user can view many different views and angles of a given scene, giving the user many more desirable options of image data to record.

In regard to **claim 9**, the limitations of claim 8 are taught above, and Fiore also teaches that the storing system comprises a sensor (external event source 8), and that the image data contains information from a sensor (external event source 8) and the list of information (shown in Fig. 7 as event information window 82) contains information from the sensor (i.e. event information). See Paras. [0041] and [0057—0060].

Regarding **claim 10**, the limitations of claim 8 are again taught above, and the Fiore reference further discloses that the image data is further added with time information (time stamps) that the image data is obtained and the list of information (72 and 82 in Figs. 6-7) contains the time information. Please refer to Paras. [0056-0057].

Finally, considering **claim 11**, Fiore in view of Berzowski teaches the limitations of claim 8 above, and Berzowski shows in Paras. [0133-0138] and Figs. 23a-23b that the image data obtained from each of the image pick-up devices is added with ID (Camera 1, Camera 2, etc.) for identifying each of the image pick-up devices, wherein a list of information (shown in Fig. 23b) further contains the ID (e.g. Camera 1).

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*Conclusion*

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Sleeckx (U.S. Pub. 2002/0175995)


Amini et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,698,021)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory V. Madden whose telephone number is 571-272-8128. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ngoc Yen Vu can be reached on 571-272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Gregory Madden  
March 12, 2007

  
NGOC YEN VU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER